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AMA Club Charter #2988  
<http://www.downeastsoaring.org>

### DownEast Soaring Club Upcoming Meeting

Event	Date	Time	Location
January Club Meeting	Saturday, 1/14/2006	9am coffee/pastry, 9:30 Business meeting, 10:30 Show & Tell (Slope afterwards?).	Bookland Coffee Shop, Cooks Corner, Brunswick *See Note 1

### Meeting Minutes of January 14<sup>th</sup> 2006 (As recorded by VP Glenn Collins)

#### MEETING ATTENDEES:

Glenn Collins, John LeClair, Ken MacDonald, Paul Johnson, Bob Berry, Rick Hallett, Robert Constable, John Giannelli, and Ted McKibben. Note: The image of John LeClair is shown in the picture of attendees in the last newsletter but his name was left on the list of attendees.



Not shown in Picture Glenn Collins, John LeClair, Ken MacDonald

**WELCOME NEW MEMBER:** A new member was present: John Giannelli. John typically flies with the KVMA in Sidney. John has flown gas powered planes for years and is now interested in gliders. He has a new Spirit he looks forward to flying next spring.

### **SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

Secretary was absent, no correspondence. The following was not discussed in the meeting: Glenn contacted Cox models about a Club purchase discount for micro-warbirds. Cox responded that they do not provide club discounts but only provide discounts to Hobby shops.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Ken opened with the treasurer's report: \$1056.25

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**DSC VIDEO LIBRARY:** The purchase of Radio Carbon Arts Hand launch building techniques was approved at the last meeting. The status of the purchase was unknown.

### **GLIDER NIGHT BUILDING AT KEN MAC DONALD'S:**

Ken updated the attendees on the goings on at the Wednesday night building get together. The nights have become quite popular. Upwards of seven people have been there at one time. Fan Fold building and the availability of templates for new fanfold planes has garnered much interest. Ken relayed the success of building with Fan Fold foam. The Frog (shown last month) and the Stagger Wing Bipe (presented this month) are both good flyers. Bob Berry relayed that one night they had 3 Frogs flying in front of Ken's house at one time. Paul Johnson kindly brought the templates for the Bipe to the meeting for members to borrow.

**CLUB FOAMY COMBAT:** Background: Glenn Collins asked if there was anyone interested in doing Foamy Combat. Members expressed a lot of interest. Glenn will come up with a design and present it to the Club. Potentially use a Johnson motor or go with a Cox plane that has a motor on it already for \$20. Cox would add consistently.

Glenn reviewed the possibility of using the new Cox micro warbird series as the basis for a club pylon racing event. Moderate interest has been shown in this. One more email will be sent out to see if there are any other takers on a bulk purchase from Cox. A purchase will be made in the next month.

### **DSC FREE MAGAZINE RAFFLE:**

Two magazines were raffled off. One went to Ted McKibben and the other went to Rick Hallett.

**DSC WEB SITE:** Background: Mike Farnsworth reported that the Club needs to find a place to host the web site. Present site is going away. Mike said he was looking into hosting the Current Clubs on a site at his house. Cost to run the server for a year at Mike's house is about \$900. Three other RC clubs pay 200 a year and will have to switch also. Hard disk space limitation would not be an issue if hosted at Mike's house. Also Mike said he still would be able to make the changes we would like to have. Only thing Mike cares about is that it doesn't cost him any money. Club members voted and authorized up to \$200 a year to go with Mike if he decides to do it.

The issue of website hosting was discussed. It appears that the four area clubs have agreed to allow Mike Farnsworth to host all the websites from his home.

## NEW BUSINESS

### **SOARTECH MANUALS:**

Bob Constable donated to the club the SoarTech manuals. The 3 volume set contains extensive aerodynamic information on airfoils. The data is particularly applicable to low Reynolds number flight for model gliders and electrics. The volumes were given to Ken so they can be reviewed at Wednesdays get together.

## Show and tell

- Paul Johnson presented his latest FanFold creation, A Beech Stagger Wing Biplane.



Weight came in around 14 oz. He uses a GWS twin drive. The model was painted with hobby acrylics for only a modest weight gain. He's flown the model and said it fly well. He will be experimenting with an aileron equipped model next. The plans for this model and others are available at:

<http://www.foamfly.com/customer/home.php>

Note: A great source for information about building with Fan Fold foam and free plans is:

<http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/forumdisplay.php?f=18>

- Paul also relayed that he has been experimenting with two part urethane foam for various modeling uses. The is formed when a two part formulation is mixed. Paul successfully filled some GWS floats with the material to strengthen them. The material weighs approximately 2 oz / ft<sup>3</sup> when fully expanded. Inline with standard insulation foams and can be shaped easily by sanding.



- Bob Constable presented a new 7 channel receiver he has been using. The receiver does not use a crystal. A separate programmer is used set the frequency. The frequency can be established on both 72 and 75MHz, positive and negative shift. The receiver weighs only 8g



which is extremely light for 7 channel full range model. The receiver is \$79, programmer \$14. Only one programmer is necessary even if you own several receivers. This device become extremely useful when paired with Spectrum type transmitter frequency modules. No more waiting to fly if someone is on your frequency.

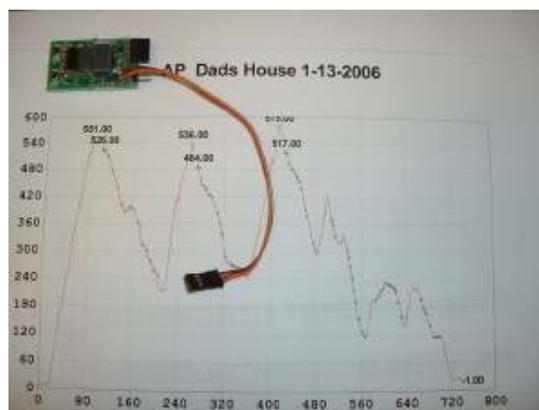
The receiver is available from Kennedy Composites <http://www.kennedycomposites.com/>

- Ted McKibben reviewed the success he's had with a product called CorrosionX. The product has proven extremely useful in restoring receivers and servos that have gone into saltwater. Others have suggested using it as a pretreatment for components that will be used over water. The price is reasonable. Comparable to WD40. The product is available in spray and pump bottles in both a red and green label. The red label would be for RC use. The green label contains oil and would leave a residue.

- Paul also gave a quick demonstration of self keeping push rod useful for parkflyers. Paul saw it in Fly RC. Paul received a free subscription to Fly RC for one of the ideas he submitted.



- John LeClair reviewed his uses of the Zlog Altimeter. John is integrating the altimeter into his aerial photography. He pairs the altimeter log signal with the camera shutter open signal. This way when a photo is taken the altitude is recorded. The data is dumped from the device into a PC using a USB connection. He hopes to one day integrate the altimeter display into a video downlink from his plane. The unit is available from HyperTech Systems in California. The altimeter is around \$70. The reader and cable is \$18. John is currently using a FanFold Slowtabria to loft his video equipment. The plane uses a brushless motor and Lipoly batteries. All up weight is only 2lbs.



## **PRESIDENT'S CORNER (JIM ARMSTRONG):**

**DECEMBER MEETING:** Special "Thank You" to VP Glenn Collins who chaired the December meeting and took the above meeting notes. I didn't make the meeting because I was away on a vacation for our 35<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

### ***PASSING OF RICK HALLETT:***

I have been putting off writing this part of the newsletter till the last minute. It is the hardest thing I've had to write. Since there are a few people in the Club that don't have e-mail and therefore haven't received anything, I have included Rick's Obituary here:

*Richard Lee Hallett*

*PITTSFIELD – Richard Lee Hallett, 63, devoted husband, son, brother and father passed from this life Sunday, January 22nd, 2006 after a short fight with brain cancer.*

*Rick was born August 12, 1942 in Fredri ton, New Brunswick, a son of Richard N. and Elsie (Hawkins) Hallett. After undergraduate studies at the University of New Brunswick, he got his graduate degree at Gordon Divinity School in Massachusetts.*



*While at Gordon, he married the former Shirley Leavitt of Lynn, MA, November 26, 1966. After graduating, Rick pastored churches in North Waterboro, Limerick, and Pittsfield. He was the pastor of the First Baptist Church in Pittsfield for 6 years until a car accident and a long recovery made him unable to serve. He continued to pastor and have services from his home every Sunday until the fall of 2005.*

*Rick also pursued owning a small business. The Hallett's Appliance sign was long a fixture of Somerset Avenue in Pittsfield. He made many friends traveling all over central Maine fixing everything from small appliances to church organs.*

*His beloved hobby was flying remote controlled airplanes with the DownEast Soaring Club. He also ran a hobby shop for many years as well, but his real joy was building the planes and teaching people how to fly. He worked as contest director for many airplane contests and 'fly-ins', making friends around the world in the process.*

*He was predeceased by his father, Richard Hallett. He is survived by his wife Shirley (Leavitt) Hallett of Pittsfield; his mother, Elsie Hallett Myshrall of Fredricton, NB;*

*three children, Richard Scott Hallett of Pittsfield; Leigh Hathaway Hallett of Newport, and Matthew Standish Hallett of Savannah, GA; a brother Ronald and wife Bonita, and a sister, Marilyn and husband Watson Williams, all of Fredricton, NB; and a brother-in-law, the Rev. Richard Warren Leavitt and family of Salisbury, MD.*

*A memorial service will be held 7 PM Thursday at the First Baptist Church, 111 South Main Street, Pittsfield. Visitation will be held at the church from 3- 5 PM. Memorial donations may be made to T.H.E. Brain Trust, 186 Hampshire Street, 2nd Floor,*

*Cambridge, MA 02139-1320. This organization is devoted to improving the quality of life for people living with brain tumors. They can also be reached at [www.braintrust.org](http://www.braintrust.org).*

*Arrangements are by Crosby & Neal, Newport. For more information or to sign an on-line guestbook, please visit [www.crosbyneal.com](http://www.crosbyneal.com); or you may contact the family directly at [rlhallett@verizon.net](mailto:rlhallett@verizon.net)*

Mike Farnsworth and I drove together to Rick's memorial service. We arrived early and Bob Buxton was already there. Bob drove 3 hours from NH to attend. Rick's Brother said that Bob drove the farthest after the international travelers.

The family had a display in a side room of the First Baptist Church. One of the items was a book of pictures of Rick. One of the pictures that everyone likes was of Rick when he was very very young holding a plane. It looked like it might be a gas Free Flight plane. This picture showed that his love of model aviation started when he was very young.

It was a beautiful memorial service. Very nice singing and prayers. There was an opportunity for anyone who wanted to share some story or recollection about Rick. It was informal - not a "Eulogy" per se - just a chance to share about him.

Bob Constable told of the great times he had with Rick going to contest and flying. Flying in search of those elusive thermals.

Mike Farnsworth talked about Rick's generosity. Particularly of how he donated a new radio and plane to a raffle for the kids that towed at one of his fun Hand Tow Contests.

One of Rick's son Scott's friends told of flying with Rick. He went along to help Rick fetch the winch line, etc. He even got a chance to fly the planes and liked it a lot. He told us of the time that Rick had hooked a thermal and stayed with it until the glider went completely out of sight. They never did find it or hear of it ever again. His closing comment was something like "Now Rick knows where it went." Rick's daughter Leigh put together some recollections about Rick. They reminded us of Rick's likes, idiosyncrasies, etc. Her husband Winn Price did a wonderful job relating them to us. It made me feel like Rick was right there with us.



Rick's brother described their time growing up.

How at a very young age he would be reading superman and his brother Rick would be reading Popular Mechanics. It was a nice insight into his younger years.

Rick's sister from Fredricton, NB, told us how Rick, over the phone, had diagnosed a problem she was having with her dryer. He said he would send her the parts and expected her to fix it. Needless to say she said I can't fix it. Rick said not to worry, I'll guide you over the phone; and he did.

There were many others that spoke too. They all expressed great love and admiration for Rick. Afterwards, the family invited the attendees to visit with them in the Church hall and have some food and refreshments.

My first recollection of meeting Rick was at the Fun Fly at the KVMA field many years ago. I think Mike and I went together. My plane was an antique silk covered Debault trainer. I had purchased it used when I was a member of the Charles River Radio Control Club. It had several hanger rash holes in it. Fuel had penetrated the opening and I was asking people there for suggestions on how to repair it. One of the guys pointed Rick out and said he was the one to talk to. Rick was setting up a winch for

his glider at the time. He stopped what he was doing and proceeded to instruct me on how to make the repair.

From then on I would look forward to seeing Rick at his hobby shop display at the Maine Model Club Association Expo. Always enjoyed making purchases from him. He wouldn't steer you wrong even if it meant he would lose a sale. I respected the guidance he gave me.

We were blessed when Rick joined the DownEast Soaring Club. He brought such enthusiasm into the Club. Club meetings were fun when Rick would bring in his creations or tips for show & tell. You never knew what he would be into next. From designing F3B winches to building a composite 4 meter plane in a week, to making several CNC foam cutting machines to making his own brushless motors, to using brown paper to cover a wing to ..... the list goes on and on.

A few years ago, I met someone from another club that said Rick used to be a member of their Club and missed Rick's show & tell items.

Rick positively touched so many lives. Because of the internet I met people in other states that knew Rick from his postings. They marveled about him.

Rick's wonderful personality was experienced by more people than we will ever know. I was talking to a friend at work one day and asked him if he knew Haslett's appliance. Guy Russell lived in Waterville but worked in Bath for the Department of the Navy. I asked him if he knew Rick. He said he wasn't sure but described a man that did some warranty work on one of his appliances. He described Rick to a T. Guy is one of those people that says what he thinks. It was nice to hear him say how much he liked the work that Rick did and enjoyed his visit. He said he was a character and a hot Sh\_\_\_. Small world isn't it.

There are just so many ways that Rick contributed to the DownEast Soaring Club, its members and others in the RC community. Rick ran 2 sanctioned AMA contests a year for DSC. Normally one Thermal Duration Contest in the spring and one Hand Tow Contest in the fall. Before DSC he ran many contests for Kennebec Valley Model Association. His help in raising funds for the Club camera and flight instruction equipment are noteworthy. He added so much to any Club meeting he attended. We all had a good time sloping with him after the meeting. It was always a treat. Sometimes we had some laughs at his expense. We will all remember the joke about if Rick makes the meeting there won't be any wind that day to fly slope. Ironically, it happened this way many times. I will never forget the time we did go to the slope and there wasn't much wind at all and when Rick had to leave and started down the hill to his car the wind picked up like crazy. You probably could hear us laughing about this a mile away.

I will miss Rick terribly. My comfort is recalling all the good times we had and remembering how fortunate I am to have had Rick in my life

Happy flying,  
Jim

#### DownEast Soaring Club Upcoming Events

Event	Date	Time	Location
February Club Meeting	Saturday, 2/11/2006	9am coffee/pastry, 9:30 Business meeting, 10:30 Show & Tell (Slope afterwards?).	Bookland Coffee Shop, Cooks Corner, Brunswick, ME *See Note #1
March Club meeting	Saturday, 3/11/2006	9am coffee/pastry, 9:30 Business meeting, 10:30 Show & Tell (Slope afterwards?).	Bookland Coffee Shop, Cooks Corner, Brunswick *See Note 1
April Club Meeting	Saturday, 4/8/2006	9am coffee/pastry, 9:30 Business meeting, 10:30 Show & Tell (Slope afterwards?).	Bookland Coffee Shop, Cooks Corner, Brunswick *See Note 1
May DSC Business meeting	Saturday, 5/13/2006	9am coffee/pastry, 9:30 Business meeting, 10:30 Show & Tell (Slope afterwards?).	Bookland Coffee Shop, Cooks Corner, Brunswick See Note #1

1. Breakfast starts at 9:00 in the Bookland Conference Room. The business meeting will start at 9:30 am sharp. Show and Tell at 10:30. Members are encouraged to eat breakfast during the business portion of the meeting.